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13DV-13990/11719

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
THEODORE ROBERT GROSSMAN et al.) GAU: 1725
Ser. No. 10/071,129) Examiner:
Filed: Feb. 8, 2002) L. Edmondson
For: METHOD FOR PREVENTING THE FORMATION OF)
SECONDARY REACTION ZONE IN SUSCEPTIBLE)
ARTICLES, AND ARTICLES PREPARED BY)
THE METHOD)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED
OCT 03 2003
TC 1700

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

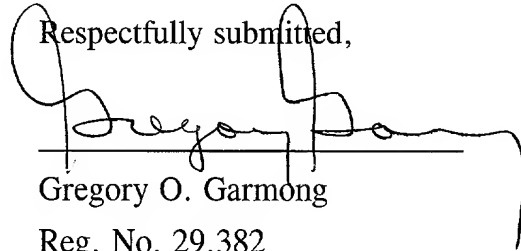
Applicant submits herewith copies of four English-language references that may be material to the examination of this application. Please consider these references and make them of record.

These references are listed in the EPO search report mailed July 10, 2003, copy attached.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 26, 2003, which is the date of mailing and the date of signature.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory O. Garmong", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Gregory O. Garmong

Reg. No. 29,382

Attorney for Applicant



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Substitute for Form PTO FB A820)
Page 1 of 1

Serial No. 10/071,129

Filed: Feb. 8, 2002

Applicant: Theodore Robert Grossman

GAU: 1725

Examiner: L Edmondson

Attorney Docket No. 13DV-13990/11719

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OCT 03 2003
TC 1700

US PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	4,746,369	5/88	Sullivan et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Transl.
	EP 1136593A1	9/01	EP			
	EP 0821076A1	1/98	EP			
	EP 0821076B1	11/01	EP			

Examiner's Signature

Date Considered



P. B. 5818 - Patentlaan 2
2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH)
☎ +31 70 340 2040
TX 31651 epo nl
FAX +31 70 340 3016

Europäisches
Patentamt

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Branch at
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Search
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Département à
La Haye
Division de la
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☐ Szary, Anne Catherine, Dr.
GE London Patent Operation,
Essex House,
12-13 Essex Street
London WC2R 3AA
GRANDE BRETAGNE

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14 JUL 2003

US Pending
Michelle B.

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OCT 03 2003
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Datum/Date

10.07.03

Zeichen/Ref./Rél. 13DV-13990/9244	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Brevet n°. 03250787.3
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Propriétaire/Titulaire GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY	

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits

- ☒ the European search report
- ☐ the declaration under Rule 45 EPC
- ☐ the partial European search report under Rule 45 EPC
- ☐ the supplementary European search report concerning the international application under Article 157(2) EPC relating to the above-mentioned European patent application. Copies of the documents cited in the search report are enclosed.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division :

- ☒ Abstract ☐ Title ☒ Figure
- ☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.
- ☐ The following figure will be published with the abstract, since the Search Division considers that it better characterises the invention than the one indicated by the applicant.
- Figure:
- ☐ Additional copy(copies) of the documents cited in the European search report.

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



EPO Form 1507 02.93



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:
- 1, 4, 6, 7



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1, 4, 6, 7

1.1. Claims: 1, 4

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article comprising not less than 4.0%/wt. of Rhenium, characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress

1.2. Claims: 1, 6

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress.

1.3. Claims: 1, 7

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed using an acid, leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress.

2. Claims: 1, 5

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, rené N6 alloy article, characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress

3. Claims: 1, 8

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed, this step being followed by a stress relieving treatment leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress.

4. Claims: 1, 9

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial



The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

coating comprising two zones is removed leaving the newly exposed surface substantially free of cold work or residual stress and the final coated article is heated to the SRZ elevated reaction temperature for the SRZ reaction period of time.

5. Claims: 2, 4-9

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that the initial coating comprising two zones is removed and the subsequent coating is free of platinum and palladium

6. Claims: 3-9

A method for preparing a coated, STZ free, nickel-base superalloy article characterised in that an initial coating is removed and a subsequent aluminium-containing coating is deposited.

Please note that all inventions mentioned under item 1, although not necessarily linked by a common inventive concept, could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 4 746 369 A (SULLIVAN THOMAS E ET AL) 24 May 1988 (1988-05-24) * abstract *	1,6,7	C22F1/10 C23F1/20 C23F1/44 C23C10/58
Y	* column 1, line 24 - column 2, line 16 * ---	4	
X	EP 1 136 593 A (GE AVIAT SERVICES OPERATION PT) 26 September 2001 (2001-09-26)	1,6,7	
Y	* paragraph [0006] * ---	4	
Y	EP 0 821 076 A (CHROMALLOY UK LTD ;ROLLS ROYCE PLC (GB)) 28 January 1998 (1998-01-28) * abstract * * column 1, line 40 - column 2, line 14 * -----	4	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			C22F C23F C23C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
MUNICH		5 May 2003	Brisson, O
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 03 25 0787

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

05-05-2003

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4746369 A	24-05-1988	AU 543333 B2	18-04-1985
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